REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner: (1) allowed claims 1, 50, 95, 142, 191, 338, 544, 546, 548, 550, 557, 559, 561, 576, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 595, 597, 599, 607, 609, 611, 613, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 645, 647, 649, 651, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 752-758, 778-790, 792-795, 797, 798, 800, 802, 803, 808-823, 831, 833, 835, and 836; and (2) objected to claims 804-806. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the attached amendment and the remarks that follow.

I. Status of the Claims

Pending claims: 1, 95, 142, 191, 338, 544, 546, 548, 550, 557, 559, 561, 576, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 595, 597, 599, 607, 609, 611, 613, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 645, 647, 649, 651, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 752-758, 778-790, 792-795, 797, 798, 800, 802-806, 808-823, 832, 833, 835, and 836.

Canceled claims: 2-94, 96-141, 143-190, 192-337, 339-543, 545, 547, 549, 551-556, 558, 560, 562-575, 577, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588-594, 596, 598, 600-606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625-644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663-676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701-751, 759-777, 791, 796, 799, 801, 807, 824-831, and 834.

Allowed claims: 1, 95, 142, 191, 338, 544, 546, 548, 550, 557, 559, 561, 576, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 595, 597, 599, 607, 609, 611, 613, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 645, 647, 649, 651, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 752-758, 778-790, 792-795, 797, 798, 800, 802, 803, 808-823, 832, 833, 835, and 836.

Currently amended claims: 804.

II. Objections to Claims 804-806

The Examiner objects to claims 804-806 because the status of these claims is unclear. Claims 805 and 806 depend from claim 804, which is currently amended to depend from allowed claim 802, rather than canceled claim 801. Applicants believe this amendment places claims 804-806 in condition for allowance.

III. Claims 50, 831 and 832

In the claim listing following box 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner identifies claims 50 and 831 as pending. Claims 50 and 831 were previously canceled. However, claim 832 remains pending and was previously allowed. See Office Action dated July 6, 2009. Applicants believe this listing should include claim 832 in place of claim 831.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that each matter raised in the Office Action dated October 29, 2009 has been fully addressed. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account Number 03-2769 (2725-27706).

Respectfully submitted,

/David A. Rose/
David A. Rose
Reg. No. 26,223
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
P. O. Box 3267
Houston, TX 77253-3267
(713) 238-8000 (Phone)
(713) 238-8008 (Fax)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS